(d) whether Government have ever considered upgrading facilities at dispensary level and utilise Medical Officers, with higher qualifications, to provide better and specialised services at dispensary level, rather than crowding hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The information is as under:—

	Medical Officer	Specialist
1999-2000	2732	22429
2000-2001	2827	23586

(c) No, Sir. Due care is taken by doctors in treating the patients at the dispensaries. The patients who require specialised treatment are referred to the hospitals depending upon the ailment.

(d) At present there is no such proposal.

Voluntary Blood Donation Movement

2231. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that volunteer blood donation movement in the country is in danger; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that blood collection has been reduced in a big way than its requirement in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) No, Sir.